

17-3117

The Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

8-79 RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

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8 January 1979



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Dear Stan:

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WALTER A. PORTER

It now appears certain that I shall be elected to the presidency of the Virginia State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution in February 1979, and I should, therefore, like to formalize my invitation to you to be our speaker at the Annual Meeting a year hence, on Saturday, February 23, 1980.

The Sons of the American Revolution are the leading patriotic organization for men in this country, the D. A. R. being their counterpart for women, all members of which are descended from a soldier or patriot who gave service towards the War of Independence. The Virginia Society has 20 Chapters spread over the Commonwealth totalling about 1200 members. The Annual Meeting is held in Richmond, and the usual attendance is about 200. Your message would reach the others through The Virginia Bulletin which I publish.

You have been speaking to college students who as new or near-voters will be guiding this country's policies in the future and who need reassurance and explanations about the important functions of the Central Intelligence Agency in our security. The S. A. R. is composed of an older and generally conservative element of our society who need no convincing about the importance of the C. I. A., and who are deeply concerned instead about the attacks on the Agency in newspapers and the exposés of covert activities. They need to be assured that the C. I. A. is not giving up too many of its initiatives to the detriment of the security of our Country.

A basic tenet of the S. A. R. is "to support the institutions of American freedom." During my presidency, we intend to emphasize the importance of our law-enforcement and security agencies, to feature panel discussions by Commonwealth's attorneys, city police chiefs, and city sheriffs, and to present awards to those who have given outstanding service to their communities. It would be a fitting culmination of this year of effort to have you as the leader of our national security tell us about the status of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Our dues of \$6.00 per year do not permit us to offer an honorarium, but we do take care of all expenses for the speaker and his wife. It is my hope, if you can accept, that I can bring your mother to our meeting as my guest, for what will be the most important event of the year for the S. A. R.

Betsy and I send our warm personal regards and best wishes for a Happy New Year.